



Los Angeles County AUDIT COMMITTEE

Louisa Ollague, Chair
1st District
Lori Glasgow, Vice-Chair
5th District
Dorinne Jordan
2nd District
Carl Gallucci,
4th District
Genie Chough
3rd District

MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING

March 3, 2010

Louisa Ollague called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m. in Conference Room 743, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration. A self introduction followed.

Committee Members Present

Louisa Ollague, Chair, First District
Springsong Cooper, First District
Dorinne Jordan, Second District
Lisa Mandel, Third District
Helen Berberian, Fifth District

Excused Absences

Carl Gallucci, Fourth District
Lori Glasgow, Vice Chair, Fifth District

APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 2, 2010 MINUTES

On motion of Lisa Mandel, seconded by Dorinne Jordan and unanimously carried, the minutes of December 2, 2010 were approved.

OLD BUSINESS

On motion of Springsong Cooper, seconded by Dorinne Jordan and unanimously carried, the Committee continued the following report:

- Tarzana Treatment Center (Board Agenda Item #35, June 16, 2009) (08/19/09)

Maria Oms, Chief Deputy, Auditor-Controller, stated the completion of additional work may be available for review later in March. Jackie Guevara, Department of the Auditor-Controller, clarified the \$1.5 million is applicable to County and non-County contracts. Tarzana has submitted their final cost report and made the adjustments. The close out report is being reviewed to determine how it has impacted the 33 contracts with Tarzana. The total maximum obligation of the 33 contracts is \$29 million.

REPORTS TO RECEIVE AND FILE

On motion of Helen Berberian, seconded by Dorinne Jordan and unanimously carried, the Committee received and filed the following reports:

- Status Report - Child Fatality Investigation (Board Agenda Item 4, August 18, 2009) (2/27/10)
- Status Report on Department of Children and Family Services Group Home Monitoring (2/25/10)

On motion of Dorinne Jordan, seconded by Louisa Ollague and unanimously carried, the Committee continued the following reports:

- San Fernando Valley Community Mental Health Center, Inc. Contract Review – A Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and Mental Health Service Provider (12/18/09)

In response to Springsong Cooper's, First District, questions, Don Chadwick, Chief, Countywide Contract Monitoring Division, received the required repayment of \$278,000. Lisa Parrish, DCFS, reported that Wraparound is a joint program with DCFS and the Mental Health Department. The Wraparound liaisons are responsible for reviewing all the billings, program services and plans of care. She will have Michael Russo respond right-away by e-mail to the Committee Members with information regarding this program; in addition invite him to the next meeting to discuss in detail quality assurances for Wraparound programs. Prior to the Board of Supervisors submission, Lisa Mandel, Third District, would also like information on staff qualification.

- Olive Crest Treatment Centers, Inc. Contract Review - A Department of Children and Family Services and Mental Health Service Provider (12/30/09)

In response to Springsong Cooper's questions, Don Chadwick iterated the report update delays may occur because the Department allows for due process that requires a responses from the contractors; the contractor wanting more time or to provide additional information; and other priorities in the department may come up occasionally to delay the process. The wraparound program has quadrupled.

Lisa Parrish stated Michael Russo, DCFS, has been working directly with the Auditor-Controller's Department to insure quality assurance mechanism for his staff. Presently, DCFS is gathering data on case rate to determine if the spending by the provider supports the set case rate and how much they are billing toward Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) Program oppose of using the case rate to fund their program. The data is to determine what level of spending is related to the currently paid case rate and to determine if it is appropriate. The Group Home rate has increased by 32%. County is not using the RCL14 rate which is about \$6,600. The County rate is closer to \$6,300. A Wraparound study will be conducted to establish if the rate is comparable.

Helen Berberian, Fifth District, requested a noted cluster of Wraparound providers of the most pervasive violators in order to address the reoccurring audit issues. At the next meeting a representative from the Department of Mental Health will be invited and discuss Training of the Wraparound contractors.

- Fred Jefferson Memorial Foster Family Agency Contract Review - A Department of Children and Family Services Provider (1/28/10)

Martha Molina-Aviles, First District, would like at the next meeting for DCFS to explain in explicitly of reoccurring/failed to comply issues in obtaining criminal clearances and providing dental and medical appointments and psychotropic medicines. She would like to know what corrective actions are being done.

Aggie Alonso, Auditor Controller's Department, Group Home/FFA audits are conducted once every four years, and DCFS would conduct an audit every six months to one year. Sylvia Drew Ivie, Chief of Staff of Second District, is more concerned with correcting the problem rather than closing and to consult with the Second District when closures are being considered.

Mr. Alonso offered to include more information in the monitoring report to assist in clearing-up findings from the audits. Ms. Cooper would like prioritizing the more serious issues earlier than six months. Ms. Berberian has concerns about the disconnect between the division and line staff and asked if Social Workers receive the monitoring reports.

- Institute for Multicultural Counseling and Education Services, Inc. Contract Review - A Department of Children and Family Services and Mental Health Service Provider (2/26/10)
- West Covina Group Home Program Contract Compliance Monitoring Review
- Cunningham Group Home Program Contract Compliance Monitoring Review

OTHER BUSINESS

DCFS/A-C Joint Monitoring Pilot Project Status - Brian Mahan, Chief Executive Office, DCFS's Fiscal Audit Status Report is pending.

DCFS GH/FFA Fiscal Audits – Cynthia McCoy-Miller, Administrative Deputy III, Bureau of Finance and Administration, distributed the Fiscal Audit Status Report FY 2009-2010 report. Committee Members suggests adding to the Status Report the payment agreement, effective date or when payment is due. Donna Doss, Assistant Treasurer & Tax Collector, conducts a financial audit and designs a complete payment plan to ensure the agency remains in the black and not utilize current receipts to pay for old debt. Following discussion, the report was received and filed.

Department of Children and Family Services' Quarterly Report - Recommendations and Implementation Status – Elizabeth Howard, CSA III of DCFS's Group Home Foster Family Agency, distributed DCFS Group Home Quarterly Monitoring Review Control Log, Reporting Period July 2009 to December 2009; and DCFS FFA Quarterly Monitoring Review Control Log (CY 2009), Reporting Period June 3, 2009 to Present). In addition, she distributed a draft matrix for the Commission to review. Chair Ollague, First District, asked if the materials distributed are given to the Committee when the audit packet is issued. Dorinne Jordan, Second District, suggested attaching DCFS's follow-up reports to the Audit Reports for review at future meetings. Mr. Alonso reported that there are 83 Group Homes, 67 are monitored by DCFS and 16 by the Probation Department (42 GH are used by both). Lisa Campbell, Director of Placement Quality Assurance, will begin monitoring their GH on July 1, 2010 amid DCFS training and will e-mail Committee Members a summarized staff list of duties.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

MATTERS NOT ON THE POSTED AGENDA (TO BE PRESENTED AND PLACED ON THE AGENDA OF A FUTURE MEETING)

There was none.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 12:22 p.m.

Others in Attendance

Maria Oms, A-C
Jim Schneiderman, A-C
Judi Thomas, A-C
Russ Lingo, A-C
Aggie Alonso, A-C
Jackie Guevara, A-C
Don Chadwick, A-C
Michael McWatters, A-C
Brian Mahan, Chief Executive Office

Marilynne Garrison, DCFS
Elizabeth Howard, DCFS/OHCMD
Cynthia McCoy-Miller, DCFS
Lisa Parrish, DCFS
Ali A. Gomaa-Mersal, DCFS
Donna Doss, Treasurer-Tax Collector
Lisa Campbell-Motton, Probation
Eunice Kim, DCFS

Staff

Lee Millen, Board of Supervisors
Nyla Jefferson, Board of Supervisors